

The Allegheny News



Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Spring 1998

The Allegheny News

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The mission of the SAF is to advance the science, technology, education, and practice of professional forestry in America and to use the knowledge and skills of the profession to benefit society.

P.O. Box 699 • Duillsburg, PA 17019-0699

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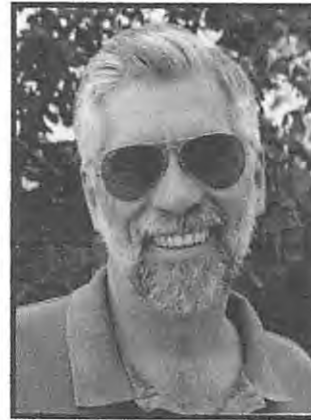
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Cover Photo

Butterfly —
one of the *Frigilliares* yet to be identified by
photographer by Earl A. Higgins
(and a sure sign of Spring!)



Chairman's Corner

By Mark R. Webb
Allegheny SAF Chair

As we start this new administrative year together, I think it is good to stop and look where we have just come from before setting a new course or continuing on the present

course. We have just completed our annual meeting at Atlantic City, NJ where the Executive Committee officially took office. I believe that this is as fine a group of people as we could have to represent the Allegheny membership!

The theme for this meeting was "Ride the Wave" and focused on the changes currently taking place within our profession. While it is true that change is a constant, the rate of change is sometimes more rapid than we can comfortably handle (let's face it, some people don't handle change period!). It seems that now we are in an accelerated rate of change whether we are talking about technology or policy. It is indeed a time of rapid change.

Prior to this winter's meeting we met at Canaan Valley, WV where the theme was on communication. One speaker's message was entitled, "Who's Communicating the Message?" — an excellent question. All too often it is not the forestry community that is doing the talking, but rather the message about forestry is being communicated by non-professionals and often with a hidden agenda to eliminate forest management.

Our Allegheny Society published a collection of Past-President Harry Wiant's talks entitled "Stand Up for Forestry" and our current President Carl Wenger sounds a similar call. Not all within the Society agree with the specifics of some of what Wiant and Wenger have to say, but I think it is important to note that they at least are saying something, something in which they believe and something they can defend.

All this is to say that you have elected those of us who make up the Executive Committee. But it is not our Society alone. We want and need to hear from you on issues you believe in and we should be responding to. Let us know about your ideas, your concerns, and aspirations about our Society. We will do our best to address them and to lead the Society towards a brighter day for forestry.

In closing, some thanks and congratulations are in order. First to **Tim Kaden**, thank you for your dedication and fine leadership in your two years as Chair, and congratulations on your election as Chair of the HSD. Congratulations to **Jack Winieski** on election as Fellow and thank you for all of your fine work for the Allegheny. Lastly to all the others who have served on the Executive Committee and other committees, who's assignments now remain or go to someone else - thank you for time served and for a job well done! ♣

Members and Views



Highlands Forest Conservation and Stewardship Coordinator Named

Marcus Phelps has been selected to provide assistance with the development and implementation of forest conservation and management strategies in the New York and New Jersey Highlands Region and the surrounding area. This physiographic region includes the watersheds of northern New Jersey and New York City that provide key linkages to the metropolitan area.

A 1966 graduate of Paul Smiths College in New York, Marcus received a BS in Forest Management at the University of Massachusetts in 1968, and in 1995, a Master of Regional Planning degree at the University of Pennsylvania, with a concentration of study in metropolitan growth management. He has served in forester assignments on National Forests in Minnesota and Missouri since 1968 and spent 17 years with the State and Private Forestry branch of the USFS. His most recent assignment has been on the Forest Health and Management staff at the Northeastern Area headquarters in Radnor, PA, working in forest resource planning, cost-share programs, and sustainable forest management.

Marcus has an office at the New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry in Franklin, NJ and can be contacted at (973) 827-6100. ▲



Third Annual Charity Shoot

By Patrick Sherren, PA Forestry Association, Industry Committee Chair

The Pennsylvania Forestry Association Industry Committee is again sponsoring the "Log a Load for Kids" (LAL) Charity Shoot to raise money for local Children's Miracle Network (CMN) hospitals, May 16, 1998. Last years shoot drew over 100 shooters and spectators, raising over \$4,700; in Pennsylvania, \$35,000 was raised by the efforts of many individuals and organizations in the wood using industry. All money raised is divided equally among LAL participating hospitals in Pennsylvania.

LAL was started by the South Carolina Forestry Association in 1988 and the American Pulpwood Association took the project to the national level in 1991. CMN's mission is to raise funds for the unique medical and emotional care of children and create community awareness of children's issues. Participation in this fund raising event for children's hospital is also an opportunity to create a positive public image for loggers and the wood-using industry. Nationwide, combined with a national telethon, LAL raised over \$125 million for children's hospitals last year.

For those not familiar with sporting clay events, it has been described as being like golf with your shot gun (or your archery equipment this year)! The 1998 shoot at Warriors Mark (located 15 miles southwest of State College, PA) has been expanded to include 20 3-D archery targets as well as the 50 sporting clay targets. Entry fee is \$30 for sporting clays and \$15 for 3-D archery participation. Entry fee includes targets, lunch, T-shirt, and a chance for numerous draw prizes (Stihl chain saw, PA Game Commission memorabilia, a two-person pheasant hunt at WMSP, and other great prizes).



Sam, Nathan, and Dave Finley, three generations of sport-ing clay participants at the 1997 LAL Charity Shoot

Sponsorship of \$100 provides for a sign at one of the shooting stations, one round of sporting clays or 3-D archery, one lunch, one ticket for draw prizes, and listing as an event sponsor. The PA SAF Division has sponsored a station for the past three years and is determining who will represent them in the shoot.

More information? Please call **Pat Sherren** at (814) 632-5406 or **Bob Long** at (814) 674-8661. ▲



In Support of the Decision Making Process Leading to the Forest Management Plan, and the Scientific Forest Management Decisions of the Allegheny National Forest

**A Position Statement of
The Allegheny Society of American Foresters**

Whereas all decisions made on the Allegheny National Forest in regards to forest management activities are based on sound scientific processes and an approved Land and Resource Management Plan; and

Whereas the staff of the Allegheny National Forest are competent professionals from diverse disciplines who have kept abreast of "state-of-the-art" technology; and

Whereas timber management has been practiced on the Allegheny National Forest under the supervision of professional foresters since the Allegheny was established by Congress; and

Whereas deferring implementation of decisions on the Allegheny National Forest can have negative ecological consequences, such as increased difficulty in establishing regeneration, and negative economic consequences, such as decreased value through tree decay;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Allegheny Society of American Foresters, the professional society for foresters, supports the decisions and decision-making-process of the Allegheny National Forest. These are based on scientific knowledge, appropriate public involvement, and reflect the highest degree of professionalism, as represented in the canons of the Society of American Foresters. These decisions also reflect considerations of the social, environmental, and economic health of the immediate area, the state of Pennsylvania, the nation of the United States and the world as a whole.

Therefore be it further resolved, that the Allegheny Society of American Foresters petitions the Federal Courts, the United States Forest Service, and the Congress of the United States to reach rapid accord on new regulations concerning National Forest planning and plan implementation. These new regulations should encourage widespread public participation in the planning process, create opportunities for new scientific knowledge to be incorporated during plan implementation, but allow professional foresters, in concert with managers reflecting diverse disciplines, to implement Forest Plans once approved.

Approved by majority vote at the 76th Annual Meeting of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters in session February 12, 1998, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. This position will expire after three years unless, after thorough review, it is renewed by majority vote of the membership.

The Allegheny Society of American Foresters (ASAF) is the society of professional foresters in the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia representing 1,160 members. It is a regional unit of the 19,000 member national Society of American Foresters (SAF) based in Washington, DC. Members subscribe to a rigid code of ethics with an objective to advance the science, technology, education, and practice of professional forestry in America and to use the knowledge and skills of the profession to benefit all society. SAF represents forestry professionals in public and private practice, research, administration, education - and forestry students at the undergraduate and graduate levels.



Dr. Gerard Hertel at Lat. 8° S, and Long. 36° E
in Udzungwa National Park, Tanzania

Hertel to the Arc!

On December 11, 1998, **Gerard Hertel**, SAF member and Assistant Director, Forest Health and Management, USFS State & Private Forestry, Radnor, Pennsylvania, returned from his third trip to East Africa. This visit set the stage for a future forest health project in Kenya and Tanzania and allowed Dr. Hertel to network with the many researchers and managers concerned with the long-term ecological health of the very important Eastern Arc Mountains.

"The what?" you ask. You no doubt have heard of the volcanic-derived Mt. Kilimanjaro and the historic Rift Valley. Well, when the Rift Valley was formed, the Eastern Arc Mountains were pushed up. They are an ecological wonder and important for wood products (especially fuelwood), water catchment areas and the location of Tanzania's major energy-supplying hydroelectric plants.

The indigenous forests of these mountains have been significantly fragmented as the result of population growth and land needed for subsistence farming. Without a major effort to promote agroforestry and industrial forest plantations, these forests are doomed. △

Thank You, Thank You, All!

By Doug Turner, Chair, NJ SAF Division

The 1998 Winter SAF Meeting, hosted by the New Jersey Division SAF, was the scene of a very successful silent auction – thanks to the many contributions.

- ◆ Brightly colored note cards by Texas forester and artist, Bruce Cunningham.
- ◆ Gift certificates, for rental of outdoor equipment, from Eastern Mountain Sports.
- ◆ Books and slate drink coasters from the Pinchot SAF Chapter.
- ◆ A pair of hiking staffs from the Rothrock SAF Chapter.
- ◆ Some nicely done Christmas Cards, with the Tree Farm Logo from David Ester.
- ◆ A plethora of books from Messrs. Newlon, Green, Kucera, and from Island Press.
- ◆ A striking waterfowl print from the New Jersey Federation of Sportsman's Clubs, which John Benton had framed for the auction.
- ◆ A very life-like bear, sculpted with chain saw now less, by Bob Eigenrauch.

We, the New Jersey Division, offer our sincere thanks to those who donated these items, and to those who bid on them, for helping to make the 1998 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting a success. ♪

NJ Forestry Association Elects

By Ron Sheay, Secretary NJFA

The New Jersey Forestry Association elected the following officers for 1998. President, **Tom Bullock**, Vice-President, **George Pierson**, Treasurer, **Beau Pettinos**, and Secretary, **Ron Sheay**. **Tracy Cate** was elected a Director for a three year term at the annual meeting in March. ♪



John Benton Receives NJ SAF Division Award

By Bill Brash, Jr., NJ SAF Chair

At the Allegheny SAF meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey on February 12, 1998, forester **John E. Benton, Jr.** (right in above photo) received a special appreciation award from the NJ SAF Division for the many contributions during his tenure as Chair. In the presence of his wife and family at the Awards Banquet, he accepted the framed certificate from **Bill Brash, Jr.**, (left in above photo) incoming Chair of the New Jersey SAF.

Those contributions include several accomplishments connected with hands-on Environmental Education. John wrote grants and arranged for matching funds to establish the wooden deck in the shape of NJ at the Forest Resource Education Center which depicts unique forest resources in the state, and to establish an "ABC Arboretum" to help younger school students identify trees by the first letter of their names. His leadership and vision was also instrumental in forging a partnership between NJ SAF and Project Learning Tree to provide science-based forestry lesson plans to be presented in K-12 teacher workshops. ♪

More on the Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting

By Terry Hoffman, Chair, Valley Forge Chapter

"Forestry at the Edge: The Urban/Rural Interface" can be experienced at King-of-Prussia, Pennsylvania August 17-18, 1998. The Valley Forge SAF Chapter has organized a program of speakers and a panel to cover: Urbanization of Rural Areas; Effect of Urbanization on Wildlife; Local Harvesting Ordinances & Their Affect on Suburban Forest Management; Riparian Buffers; and the Chesapeake Bay Governor's 2010 by 2010 Pledge. The Whiteland Experience will be presented for discussion by an expert panel.

Tours will include: the Morris Arboretum; a visit to the Pennypack Watershed; Nottingham County Park, and Valley Forge National Park (deer tick studies and the historic areas) – and "George Washington" will be coming to dinner!

Look for the Conference registration brochure in your mail box later this summer, but mark your calendar now and talk it up with the family – plenty of shopping at the King-of-Prussia Court & Plaza; take a side trip to center city Philadelphia and the Franklin Institute of Science; visit Longwood Gardens; or take a tour of the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. ♪

1997 Allegheny SAF Awards Presentations

1997 Forester of the Year

David C. Plummer, Forester with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources-Forest Service, was chosen as 1997 Allegheny Forester of the Year. Over the past five years, Dave has established a forestry presence in an unlikely spot -- the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC, in the Anacostia River Watershed. In this highly urbanized area, where the population had only limited perceptions of what forestry is all about, he has established over two miles of forested stream buffer plantings since 1993, expanding the awareness of urban community groups by involving over 800 volunteers in the plantings.

He has developed and given technical slide presentations on forest buffer restoration to professional and lay groups; conducted field tours for congressional aids and for "Outdoors MD" Public TV; and helped prepare a task force "white paper" on the status of the Little Paint Branch tributary of the Anicostia River.

1997 Outstanding Service to Forestry

Wilbur E. Wolf, Jr., self-employed consulting forester and SAF Certified Forester[®], was honored for his outstanding service to forestry for over 35 years. He served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army, 1959-64; as a forester with the Virginia Division of Forestry in 1965; and from 1965 until retirement in 1993, was Senior Area Forester and later District Manager with The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company.

Wilbur has served the Allegheny SAF as the Newsletter Editor and Chairman. He chairs the Timber Harvesting Advisory Committee, and most recently volunteered in the student mentor program. These are in addition to his many other contributions as a member of committees at the Allegheny and PA Division level.

He has been a Cumberland County Conservation District Director and Chair; President of the Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association; Chair of the PA Tree Farm Committee; member, PA DCNR Timber Harvesting and

Ecosystem Management Advisory Committees; on the Board and Secretary, The PA Wildlife Federation; member, Non-point Source Silviculture Workshop of PA DER; member and technical consultant, Forest Wetlands BMP and Forest Management Practices task forces; member, Cumberland County Extension Assoc. Executive, Land Use and 4-H Advisory Committees; member, PA Forestry Association; member, PA Sustainable Forestry Initiative Logging Curriculum Committee; instructor, Red Lion Envirothon team; Past President and member, Big Spring School Board and Penn Township Planning Commissions.

Awards include the FFA Honorary Chapter Farmer and PA Forestry Assoc. 100th Anniversary Natural Resources Conservation, 1986; and Cumberland Conservation District Ann Rudd Saxman Conservation Volunteer, 1996.

Election to Society of American Foresters Fellow

John A. (Jack) Winieski, Retired Forest Geneticist from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and SAF Certified Forester[®], was elected to Fellow in the Society of American

Foresters, the highest form of recognition by one's professional peers, by voting members of the Allegheny five-state Society from which he was nominated.

Jack has held a number of positions in SAF since becoming a member in 1969: Chair of the Pennsylvania Keystone and PA Divisions; membership and chairs in Tree Improvement and Program Committees; presently Editor of the Allegheny News newsletter and part-time Executive Director of the Allegheny SAF. While with the DCNR Bureau of Forestry he was responsible for designing and, in conjunction with line and nursery foresters, creating tree seed orchards for the production of genetically improved tree seed sources to be used by the state tree seedling nurseries and in regeneration research projects; cooperated with the USFS and Penn State in regeneration research; was a member of the 1981 U.S.D.A. Technical Exchange Team of forest geneticists to the People's Republic of China; a substitute instructor in soils and reclamation at the Penn State Mont Alto campus; Co-coordinator of the PA Project Learning Tree (PLT) Program; and has assisted in PLT workshops in conjunction with the Skogen I Skolan environmental education teacher workshops in Sweden. △



(Left to right): David C. Plummer, Jack Winieski, and Wilbur E. Wolf, Jr. receive their 1997 awards at the Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting held in Atlantic City, NJ

Results of the 1998 Allegheny Society of American Foresters Reginald Forbes Art Show

Charles J. Newlon, Director

The 1998 Reginald Forbes Art show exhibited 18 art pieces entered by 12 members and their immediate families. A new student category was added this year for entries from forestry students and family member students. It is hoped that hidden talents will surface and participation in this category will increase at future shows.

"Reggie" Forbes, the teacher, would thoroughly endorse this expanded effort to involve students!

Professional Category

Flat Art - Photography

Place	Subject	Artist
1 st	Maine Coastline	Dennis Galway
2 nd	Kinzua Bridge	Bob LaBar
3 rd	Image in Crystal Cae	Dennis Galway

Three Dimensional

Place	Subject	Artist
1 st	Carved Heron in Pond	Jim Rassman
2 nd	Carved Crappie	Ron Harrigan
3 rd	Hand-crafted Tie: Leaves	Vicki Kincaid

Amateur Category

Flat Art - Painting

Place	Subject	Artist
1 st	Flowers (watercolor)	Ron Harrigan
2 nd	Coleoptera: Beetle	Doug Turner
3 rd	Tree Frog	Doug Turner

Flat Art - Photography

Place	Subject	Artist
1 st	Swallowtail Butterfly	Earl Higgins
2 nd	Egert	Earl Higgins
3 rd (Tie)	Heron (in Australia)	Gary Huse
3 rd (Tie)	Great Blue Heron (in NJ)	Earl Higgins

Student Category

Flat Art - Painting

Place	Subject	Artist
1 st	Indian Chief	Katherine Gottschalk


Thanks again to everyone involved this year — artists, judges and coordinators. ♣

SAF Dues Structure and Rates to Change in 1999

By Lori Gardner, Director,
SAF Communications and Member Services


Membership Category	New Rate*	Current Rate
Professional (21-49 yr.)	\$130.00	\$125.00
Professional (16-20 yr.)	120.00	115.00
Professional (11-15 yr.)	105.00	100.00
Professional (6-10 yr.)	105.00	75.00
Professional (Retired)	105.00	62.50
Professional (1-5 yr.)	65.00	50.00
Conditional Professional (3 yr. Count in 5-yr. Rate)	65.00	45.00
Associate (6+ yr.)	85.00	40.00
Associate (1-5 yr.)	65.00	40.00
Technician (6+ yr.)	85.00	35.00
Technician (1-5 yr.)	65.00	35.00
Corresponding	65.00	60.00
International	65.00	40.00
Hardship	Variable	Variable
Student	30.00	25.00
Professional (Lifetime/Golden)	0.00	0.00

*Effective January 1, 1999




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(Left to right): Francis Beck, Mike Powell, and Jamie Leary of Penn State are congratulated by Kim Steiner (far right) on being the winners of the 1998 Student Quiz Bowl

Penn State Wins 1998 Allegheny SAF Student Quiz Bowl

By Steve Resh, Allegany College of Maryland

Four college teams competed in the 11th Annual Student Quiz Bowl held at the 76th Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey on February 12, 1998. **Francis Beck, Jamie Leary, and Mike Powell** representing Penn State University won the event by defeating the West Virginia University team of **Rick Dottellis, Brian Kachur, and John Spink** in the final round. This win marks the fifth time that the forestry students in blue and white have captured the coveted trophy. In September, the Penn State team will be going to the National SAF Convention in Traverse City, MI to compete in the National Student Quiz Bowl (Allegheny SAF allocates \$500 to help defray the team's expenses).

Penn State advanced to the final round by narrowly defeating the Allegany College of Maryland Forest Technology School team of **Doug Hartz, Tracy Hawk, and Heather Mechtensimer**. The WVU team, 1997 defending champions, defeated a tough Rutgers University team comprised of **Christal Czarriscki, Charlie Karedziolka, and Peter Martin** in round one of the competition.

The Student Quiz Bowl competition is the highlight of the Winter SAF Meetings for the students involved as well as for the long-time foresters in the audience. **Steve Resh**, Quiz Bowl Coordinator, remarked that, "this contest is a great way to remind foresters of all the things they have forgotten since graduation." Despite competition from a multitude of 'one armed bandits,' the audience was well behaved, Resh noted.

In addition to the competitors, and faculty members who submitted questions, the committee thanks **Timer Tim Kaden, Scorer Don Nibert, and Reader Jack Winieski** who also acted as final judges when answers were sometimes paraphrased or less than complete. Thanks also the New Jersey SAF Division for the excellent accommodations and providing the winning plaque. △

P & G to Convert Mehoopany Plant to 100% Purchased Fiber

MEHOOPANY, PA, March 4, 1998 - The Proctor & Gamble Paper Products Company announced today that it will convert its paper products plant in Mehoopany to 100% purchased fiber. When that conversion is complete, in one to two years, the company will close its local woodyard and pulp mill operations. The company reports that no involuntary separations will result from this decision, and that they will work with local wood suppliers to help them achieve an orderly transition of their businesses. The decision is part of P&G's ongoing efforts to optimize its production and distribution systems to meet current and future business needs.

Mehoopany tissue/towel Plant Manager **Steve Gaines** said, "This was a tough decision for us, even though it's absolutely right for the long term success of our paper products business. All of the people associated with the woodyard and pulp mill businesses over the past thirty years, employees and suppliers alike, have done an outstanding job in making this business successful. We know this move affects our wood supplier community, and we will work with them to do what we can to help them redirect their businesses."

In 1992, P&G made a strategic decision to divest itself of all of its company owned woodyard/pulp mill operations, except those at the Mehoopany Plant, and to formulate its tissue/towel products from purchased fiber. At that time, the Mehoopany operations provided a significant cost advantage versus purchased fiber, and the local pulp mill was kept open. Since then, the company has periodically checked on current and projected fiber costs. The last study, which this decision was based on, was just completed and clearly showed that the local operations no longer provide the long term advantage they once did.

"Purchasing our fiber externally allows us to standardize our fiber across all plants, and it offers other advantages, as well, including reduced costs and flexibility of supply," said **Gaines**. "No less important is that this move frees up a pool of talented employees to focus more directly on building our major brands, like *Charmin* and *Bounty*." Contact **J.G. DeMarco, Jr.** (717) 833-3752. △

Allegheny SAF Recognizes Five New Golden Members

John F. Davis, of Snow Hill, MD, **Harry M. Hartman**, of Cumberland, MD, **Charles Holsworth**, of Vineland, New Jersey, **Rex E. Melton**, of Pennsylvania Furnace, PA and **Robert Shannon**, of Kittanning, PA, were among those honored during the banquet presentations of the 76th Annual meeting of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters (SAF) at Atlantic City, New Jersey, February 12, 1998. These gentlemen were presented with SAF Golden Member Certificates, recognizing 50 years of membership. △

Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters

Annual Members Meeting

February 3, 1998 Luncheon Address By Kenneth L. Balliet , ACF

Honorable State Senators and Representatives, Colleagues, Guests and friends. - I would like to thank you for taking the time to join us here in Harrisburg today at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters. And I appreciate the opportunity to stand before you and discuss why I think we need to license foresters in Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters is a diverse group of foresters and landowners who are concerned about the future of our forests and the practice of forestry. We represent the majority of foresters across the state who see professional licensing as tool for creating accountability in the practice and profession of forestry. Specifically we believe that:

1. The availability of competent professional forestry services is essential to sustaining forest health and productivity!

2. Landowners interests are best served when represented by ethical , competent forestry professionals.

3. The health, safety and welfare of the general public is not adequately served if the forest is not sustained.

4. Forester licensing is required to insure ethical delivery of competent professional services which are required to sustain our forests.

The Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters is not for bigger government. And there is no intent to force forest management on landowners who do not wish to manage their lands. The Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters is a group of professionals who see the need to "self-regulate" minimum forestry standards for foresters.

To complicate the licensing issue, the duties and responsibilities of a "forester" may have several meanings depending upon who pays his or her salary. Generally foresters can be placed into three major groups: industrial foresters, governmental foresters, and consulting foresters.

Industrial foresters are generally employed by wood products firms to buy

timber and logs for the sawmills and other forest products industries. Some foresters employed by the pulp and paper mills support landowner assistance programs where they assist landowners in managing their timber in exchange for some future benefit . Industry ownership of commercial forest lands accounts for only 5% of the forests in this state. However most mills procure their resources from all land ownership types.

Governmental Foresters are employed by the federal, state and local governments to provide professional management for public lands in Pennsylvania. Federal and state lands account for 17% of our commercial forests. In addition, there are approximately 42 service foresters who are employed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. These foresters provide free forestry education and management assistance to private landowners in each forest district.

Consulting Foresters are professionals in private business who provide a wide range of forest management services, on a fee basis, to private landowners across the state. Private landowners control over 75% of the commercial timberlands in Pennsylvania and include individuals, corporations (other than industry) , and farmers.

The Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters organized to encourage unethical individuals from all the groups I just listed, (Industrial foresters, Government foresters and Consulting foresters), from using the term "forester" for personal or competitive business gains at the expense of the landowner and the resource.

To the over 500,000 forest landowners in this state, the term "forester" has a professional connotation. And for many, they see "foresters" as conservationists and stewards of the land, holders of an implied trust, protecting the trees and

wildlife of Pennsylvania. Many of us try to live up to those expectations.

However anyone can represent themselves to be a "forester" in this state. And unfortunately some do in order to convince and assure landowners that they are managing their resource in a responsible manner, when in fact they are not. The results are all too common. Devastating losses to the landowner in terms of timber value and immeasurable loss to the many resources and future productivity of our forests.

Landowners need to be able to identify competent foresters and be able to hold them accountable!

Unfortunately this is just the start of the cycle of poor management. Ethical industrial foresters have to compete in the timber market and are at a competitive disadvantage if they practice responsible forestry. Consulting and service foresters have to continually try to educate landowners who often do not understand the immediate and long term value of good forestry and simply sell to the highest bidder. Forest management is an investment in the future... and its tough to convince a landowner to refuse a larger sum of money for all his sawtimber, and that less money now -will mean much more money later.

Foresters have tried several approaches to distinguish the ethical foresters from those who would exploit their profession. The Society of American Foresters began its "Certified Forester" Program several years ago. This program uses requirements of minimum education, experience and continuing education to try and market professionalism to the profession and the public. The Association of Consulting Foresters uses these same criteria for membership, along with a strong code of ethics. High membership rates in both these organizations illustrate that **Foresters want to be held accountable!**

But the results are disappointing. Abuses continue - and according to latest research the forests are continuing to be mismanaged by 1) an unacceptable number of well intentioned landowners

operating with bad advice from unethical foresters, and 2) landowners who only wish to maximize their financial return and have no desire to manage their forests for the future.

Finally, all ethical foresters consider "sustainable forestry" as the **only** forestry. It has been since I entered forestry school in 1970 and the mere definition of "forestry" precludes anything else but "sustainability". The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) is a recent marketing program started by the forest products industry. SFI is a response to the public's perceived dissatisfaction with how the industry manages private lands and it offers some hope for the future. However a close look at the program reveals several facts that are cause for concern.

First — Mills who subscribe and market as complying to SFI currently only need to practice SFI on company owned lands. Remember that industry lands account for only 5% of the commercial forest lands in Pennsylvania. Why not apply SFI to all forests harvested by the mills?

Second — One of the other goals of the SFI Program is to educate loggers. But good harvesting practices, just like good forest management takes time and costs money. And until all loggers are required to harvest timber on a sustainable basis- those that do practice sustainable forestry are at a competitive

disadvantage.

And Third — there is no accountability! Subscribing mills need only report what action they have taken each year to stay in the program. SFI needs to be reviewed by professional foresters to be sure that mills are managing the resource using sound scientific principles. **SFI needs to be held accountable.** Anything less is just another attempt to use the terms "foresters and forestry" to impact public perception.

Forester Licensing as proposed by the Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters is accountability. It includes:

- Minimum standards to enter the profession
- Competency testing to be sure the standards are met.
- Continuing education necessary to remain a competent professional
- And a code of Ethics with provisions for sanctions if they are not followed

The Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters is preparing to introduce its legislation for licensing foresters in Pennsylvania. We welcome the attention of the Forestry Task Force on the licensing issue. And we look forward to your favorable support of our efforts.

The 500,000 landowners of this state, your constituents, need help in

managing this complex resource and *deserve* accountability from professional foresters.

The professional foresters of this state who are the conservationists and stewards of our forests *require* accountability in order to do their job.

The priceless water, soil, forest and wildlife resources of this great state, that give us so much today and holds the promise of future generations, *demand*s accountability.

With your help we **can** make a difference — and **now** is the time.

Thank you.



*Kenneth L. Balliet, ACF
President
Susquehanna Forest Services, Inc.*

Position Wanted

SAF Certified Forester[®] with 12 years of industry, consulting, and federal forestry experience is looking for a challenging position in the forest resource field. Experience in cruising, harvest management, negotiation, public relations, managing field foresters, and financial analysis. Successful working with people from different backgrounds, including teams composed of forest resource stakeholders. BSF, MF, and MBA degrees. Active in SAF, American Tree Farm Program, and various interdisciplinary resource management state committees. Willing to locate. **Reply to Allegheny SAF, PO Box 699, Dillsburg, PA 17019 or (717) 432-3646 for a return contact.**

Position Available **Senior Research Technologist**

Penn State's School of Forest Resources seeks applicants for the position of **Senior Research Technologist** with responsibilities for the maintenance and management of greenhouses and related facilities; maintenance and routine management of experimental plantations and other long-term field studies; training and oversight of students working in the greenhouse or in field studies; and other related assistance to forestry faculty. This is a 12-month appointment, renewable annually subject to satisfactory performance. Applicants should have a B.S. degree in forestry or related discipline. Desirable qualifications include familiarity with greenhouse or nursery operations, knowledge of equipment, pesticide certification, and knowledge of standard computer software. To apply, submit a resume, academic transcripts, and three letters of recommendation to **Cathy Arney, 113C Ferguson Building, University Park, PA 16802.** Questions about the position may be directed to Kim Steiner via e-mail kcs@psu.edu, or call (814) 865-9351. Application deadline April 15, 1998.

A Wild Idea

By Matt Bennett*

Overview

Little known outside the environmental movement, The Wildlands Project, is the most ambitious and far reaching attempt yet to reinvent the North American continent according to ecologically correct guidelines. Under this proposal, 50% of North America would be preserved or restored to wilderness for the preservation of biological diversity. However implausible this goal may seem, The Wildlands Project is well developed, well organized and well financed.

Based upon the work of freelance conservation biologist Reed Noss, the cornerstone of the project consists of creating "reserve networks" across the continent to provide vast areas of wildlife habitat. The goal is to maximize biological diversity – unfortunately at the expense of the human occupants.

The ethical justification for The Wildlands Project rest upon the philosophy of deep ecology. Deriving much of its ideology from Buddhism and Taoism, deep ecology contends that science has little to tell us about living in harmony with the planet and other non-human life forms.

With affiliates spread throughout North America, The Wildlands Project through its literary extension *Wild Earth* magazine, educates and informs grassroots activists how to design reserve areas, do GIS mapping, and network with other activists. Some of these affiliates have received substantial sums in support of their work from both corporate and private foundations.

The ability of these activists to combine science and organizations, and then to attract substantial funding, makes it possible for The Wildlands Project to influence public policy far beyond its current obscure status. Therefore it is important for decision makers and the public alike to understand what The Wildlands Project means when it claims to be "plotting a North American wilderness recovery strategy."

The following article appeared in the Fall 1997 issue of *The Consultant*, a publication of the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc., and is reprinted with permission.
Ed.

Background

In 1990, beset with legal problems and having lost the struggle to retain control of the movement, Dave Foreman left the eco-terrorist group Earth First! According to Foreman, it was time to go. Earth First! had accomplished much of what he and other co-founders had envisioned in its desert genesis. In addition to showing major environmental groups that the in-your-face activism that Earth First! practiced, would work, Foreman felt they had also reshaped the debate over wilderness preservation. Prior to Earth First!, wilderness preservation focused on scenic values and recreational opportunities. Foreman used Earth First! to promote the idea that wild lands should be preserved for the sake of biodiversity. However, by the 1990's Foreman wanted to raise the level and quality of the debate. That would require a different strategy from the militant environmentalism of Earth First!

In his 1991 book, *Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*, Foreman hinted at the direction this new strategy might take: "the only hope of the Earth is to withdraw huge areas as inviolate natural sanctuaries from the depredations of modern industry and technology. Move out the people and cars. Reclaim the roads and the plowed lands." In the 1992 special issue of *Wild Earth* magazine published by Foreman, he debuted his so-called new conservation movement, the Wildlands Project.

The Wildlands Project

There are three main points to consider about the Wildlands Project. First, it is well developed from a scientific and a philosophical perspective. Second, it is well organized. And finally, at least in one instance, it is extremely well financed.

A strategy that calls for the return and restoration of 50% of the North American continent to wilderness may seem impossible to succeed, however, Wildlanders are encouraged to think

big. As Reed Noss, science director of The Wildlands Project, wrote in *Saving Nature's Legacy*, "At all scales, the key to making land conservation effective is to expand our thinking in space, time and ambition – that is, to think "big." Noss writes further, "To think only in terms of what is politically reasonable, practical, or financially profitable is shortsighted. At worst, a lack of ambition and acceptance of the status quo is an invitation to mass extinction."

Noss's reference to mass extinction is significant. Wildlanders are convinced that the continent is headed toward unparalleled species extinction, a conclusion shared by many in the field of conservation biology, the scientific underpinning of the Wildlands Project. Foreman echoed that theme in the premier issue of *Wild Earth*: "We are currently embroiled in the greatest crisis in four billion years of life on earth. Never before – not even 65 million years ago at the end of the Cretaceous when dinosaurs became extinct – has there been an extinction rate comparable to today's."

Such concerns call for drastic actions and a radical transformation of society as we know it. John Davis, editor of *Wild Earth*, wrote, "Does all the foregoing mean that *Wild Earth* and the Wildlands Project advocate the end of industrialized civilization? Most assuredly, everything civilized must go..."

The Wildlands Project approach to conserving biological diversity requires not only a re-thinking of science, politics, land use, industrialization and civilization, it also requires re-thinking humanity's place in nature. It requires a new philosophical and spiritual foundation for western civilization. That foundation is the philosophy of deep ecology. As prominent ecologist Paul Ehrlich wrote in *The Machinery of Nature*, "the main hope for changing humanity's present course may lie . . . in the so-called deep ecology movement. The deep ecology movement thinks

today's human thought patterns and social organization are inadequate to deal with the population-resource-environmental crisis..." Ehrlich goes on to write, "I am convinced that such a quasi-religious movement, one concerned with the need to change the values that now govern much of human activity, is essential to the persistence of our civilization."

By incorporating conservation biology and deep ecology into the Wildlands Project, foreman has succeeded in moving the debate to the next level, giving the Wildlands Project a credibility beyond what Earth First! Could have accomplished with its militant activism. This is not to say that the Wildlands Project is without activism. For from it. However, the Wildlands Project represents an organizational structure far more sophisticated and far more disciplined than anything Earth First! could ever achieve.

According to its statement of purpose, *Wild Earth*, "shall provide a voice for the many effective but little known regional and ad hoc wilderness groups and coalitions in North America," and "shall serve as a networking tool for grassroots wilderness activists." The Winter '95/'96 issue of *Wild Earth* listed 11 such groups and coalitions that literally extend from coast to coast throughout North America.

This number may be deceiving, since these 11 often represent many more. For example, one of the group of 11, the Southern Appalachian Biodiversity Project, is a member of the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition, which has 13 more member organizations in the southern Appalachian region. And Heartwood, a Wildlands Project affiliate from Indiana, has membership of over 95 other organizations throughout Ohio, Virginia, Louisiana, Alabama, Missouri, California, Georgia, New York, Vermont, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Arkansas, Illinois, and West Virginia.

The Wildlands Project has been primarily concerned with federal lands. It is safe to say that there is no area of federal forest lands that does not now, or will not soon have, a Wildlands Project to cover it. The federal domain comprises about one-third of the United States, and if efforts are successful in

stopping grazing, mining and timber harvesting on all federal lands (a reasonable expectation, given current trends), project leaders will be well on their way to achieving their goal.

Of late, some Wildlands Project affiliates have demonstrated an interest in private lands. In fact, the reserve network strategy designed by Dr. Noss will not succeed without the inclusion of a considerable amount of private land. It is a reasonable assumption that as these groups are increasingly successful in locking up state and federal lands, they will focus their attention on private lands.

It is fair to ask the question: Are these plans too ambitious and far-fetched to succeed? Perhaps, however, two things should be kept in mind.

First this plan is a long-range strategy designed to take a hundred years or more. Quoting Dr. Noss again, "The Wildlands Project is long range (planning over decades and centuries) and highly ambitious." Michael Soule, co-founder of the Society for Conservation Biology, wrote in the *Wild Earth Special Issue*, "Talk of decades, let alone centuries, distressed many people ... But we must not indulge in illusory quick fixes. Repair - restoring and reconnecting the land - will take time ... The key is thinking BIG, both in space and time."

Second, whether deceived by a misrepresentation of the Wildlands Project, or perhaps as willing accomplices, large corporate and private foundations have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Wildlands Project and its affiliates.

The Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition and its members have received grants from the Lyndhurst foundation (\$394,500), Pew Charitable Trust (\$625,000), W. Alton Jones Foundation (\$100,000), and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (\$225,000) among others. The Turner Foundation, established by media mogul Ted Turner, doesn't publish the amounts it gives, however, it probably is the largest single underwriter, awarding grants to Heartwood, American Wildlands, Predator Project, Road-Rip, Southern Environmental Law Center, The Wildlands Project home office, Alliance for Wild Rockies, and the Southern

Appalachian Forest Coalition.

Corporate foundation such as Patagonia, Ben and Jerry's, and companies under the umbrella of the Conservation Alliance also have given money to the Wildlands Project. Patagonia donated valuable advertising space, placing a two-page, full color promotion for the project in their '95 winter catalog.

It would be a mistake to underestimate the impact this level of financing and support will have on public policy making (in fact it already has), as part-time activists now can afford to be full-time activists.

Conclusion

The Wildlands Project exists within legal boundaries, however, that should not prevent us from being concerned. At the very least, it advocates an extreme manifestation of environmental and public policy. Therefore, any claim the Wildlands Project makes toward public policy must be debated and ultimately decided in the public arena. Yet to date, it has existed almost anonymously, beyond the knowledge of the wider public.**

It must be examined out from behind the cover of more general environmental concerns, held up for public scrutiny, and either accepted or rejected by a public fully aware of its implications. Failing to do so could have dire consequences, for as John Adams one wrote, "Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge by the People."

**Matt Bennett is past president of the Tennessee Forestry Association and Vice President of Sales at Emmet Vaughn Lumber Company in Knoxville, Tennessee. He offers updates on The Wildlands Project on his web site, <wildlandsproject.org> He has been interested in environmental issues for a number of years. Recently he received a \$10,000 grant from the National Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers Association to continue his research on the development and implications of the Wildlands Project. The above is his understanding of this bold movement, basically as presented at the Summer Meeting of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters at Canaan Valley, West Virginia, August 14, 1997.*

*** Articles describing the Wildlands Project have been published in Science magazine (June 25, 1993), Volume 260) and Garbage magazine (Spring 1994).*

Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting - Atlantic City, NJ



Les Alpaugh and Dave Edelman (NJ) discuss "investing" a dollar at the Tropicana Casino (photo by Alex Day).



Allegheny SAF Chair Mark Webb (top) installs the 1998-99 Officers: (l to r) Susan Lacy, Mike Lester, Kurt Gottschalk, Ken Jolly & Ken Kane



Earl Higgins (right) to Ed Palpant (left) of Better Forest Tree Seeds, quote: "You mean to tell me that cone came off a 6-foot Christmas Tree?"



(Left to right) Merle Waltz, Bob Schweitzer and Jim Pflieger (PA) enjoy a stretch during Friday morning's wrap-up session (photo by Alex Day)



Bob LaBar and Eric Carlson (PA) enjoy a relaxing moment in Atlantic City (photo at left by Alex Day)



Wilbur Wolf receives his Outstanding Service to Forestry Award from Dr. Robert Shipman (photo at right)

Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting - Atlantic City, NJ



Newly installed Allegheny SAF Chair Mark Webb acquaints members with his philosophy for the next two years at the "Chair's Breakfast"



Charlie Newlon (far left) collects entries for the Reginald Forbes Art Contest, as Doug Turner explains his artwork to the John Benton family (photo by Alex Day)

Incompetence - "Intending to do the right thing and not knowing what you are doing is just as bad as knowing the right thing and not doing it!"
BB, 1997

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Will 'Green' Standards Determine the Future of Forestry?

By Loren R. Larson, II*

Whether you call it Green Certification, Green Tag Forestry, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative or something else, you are talking about a recent trend that has the potential to affect all foresters and landowners.

What is Forest Certification?

In its most basic form, forest certification is the independent audit of forest practices. The idea is to give consumers information about the impact that the management and harvesting of forest products and their sources have on the environment.

In theory, informed consumers will prefer products that are "sustainably" harvested and managed, and will pay a premium for "certified" wood. The goal of some certification programs is to create pressure on the free market to stimulate a demand for sustainably grown products, resulting in a change of forest management.

What's Available?

Several organizations, including the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA), the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the National Forestry Association (NFA), and the American Tree Farm System (ATFS), have taken steps toward developing forest certification programs, each with a different approach.

The Forest Stewardship Council

"Green certification" refers to the program initiated by the Forest Stewardship Council. The FSC describes itself as an international, independent, nonprofit, non-governmental organization founded in 1993 by organization representatives from environmental, forest product certification, indigenous peoples', and community forest groups. The stated goal of the FSC is to set a worldwide, common set of principles for judging and certifying well managed forests.

FSC principles are used to accredit certifiers of forests and their managers. Landowners can either have their lands directly certified or hire a certified resource manager to certify harvests.

In the United States, several organizations have been accredited by the FSC to certify the management

activities of landowners and foresters. Two of these groups are SmartWood and Scientific Certification Systems (SCS). To date, these two groups have certified 3.6 million acres of forest land and eight independent consulting firms (the certification of resource managers began in 1996). These include State owned forest lands in Minnesota (550,000 acres) and Pennsylvania (1.2 million acres, with additional 1 million expected in the near future).

FSC's certification standards currently work best in regions with tree species that do not rely on intensive management for regeneration. Hardwood forests that thrive under uneven-aged conditions have an advantage, because little pressure exists to change management techniques.

The National Forestry Association

A second program for certification is under development by the National Forestry Association, an affiliate of the National Woodland Owners Association (NWOA). Using the moniker "Green Tag Forestry *SM*," the NFA will in a sense compete with the Forest Stewardship Council by offering a viable, scientifically-based alternative to "Green Certification." The program is designed specifically for non-industrial private forest owners and builds upon their existing forest management plans. In order to display the "Green Tag" sign, woodland owners must have implemented a detailed forest management plan prepared by a registered consulting forester who has undergone special training in forest certification procedures.

The certification is similar to a Tree Farm management plan – which can be the starting point – but in more detail, especially in timber harvesting plans and recognition of components of natural diversity. In addition, NFA approved personnel must supervise both harvest and continuing forest management plans to earn the seal.

Field testing of Green Tag Forestry *SM* is currently under way in Virginia and Maine. The former includes a chain of custody tracking program from the harvest, through the mill and kiln, and

to the customer. A big factor that could favor the NFA initiative is the existing availability of a pool of 400 consulting foresters nationwide who are providing introductory visits to NWOA members through the National Forestry Network organized in 1981.

The American Forest & Paper Association

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), is the mechanism the American Forest & Paper Association is using to inform the public that its members are successfully managing forests and producing forest products in a sustainable manner. SFI relies on member companies complying with a set of principles that dictate the way forests are managed.

These sustainable forestry principles, along with implementation guidelines, constitute AF&PA members' commitment to sustainable forestry and set benchmark levels. SFI is not being called a certification program by AF&PA, but it appears to be heading in that direction.

AF&PA's objective is to achieve a much broader practice of sustainable forestry throughout the US. In this way, member companies hope to improve their own performance, and set new standards for the entire forest industry as well as for other forest landowners. The association believes that its principles and implementation guidelines are the latest of many steps in an evolution of US industrial forestry practices.

The American Tree Farm System

The American Tree Farm System (ATFS) recently announced that they are considering transforming the program into a Forest Certification program. The structure would be similar to that of the National Forestry Association and would allow for labeling of certified timber.

The ATFS has been around for approximately fifty years. About 95 million acres managed by 70,000 tree farmers in 50 states are enrolled in the program. They plan to have its certification program operational by 1999.

Reasons to Consider Certification

Two consulting foresters certified by

SmartWood are Mark Miller, ACF, and Harold Burnett, CM, of Coopers Mills, Maine. According to the partners, they sought certification for their firm, Two Trees Forestry, because they wanted to demonstrate to others their commitment to sustainable forestry. They also wanted to reassure forest landowners that their management practices were state-of-the-art in both environmental sensitivity and economic return.

Miller and Burnett say they support certification programs because they "raise the bar" of performance for forestry operations in what they consider a positive way, hopefully eliminating the need for regulation.

SmartWood found Two Trees Forestry to be "well managed" under its Northeast Regional Guidelines. A three-person team of regional forestry and wildlife ecology experts reviewed the company's management and harvest operations, inspecting ten sites over a three-day period. The SmartWood team found that Two Trees Forestry operated above the norm for the region, and addressed state-of-the-art forest management issues in its policies.

One of the questions Two Tree Forestry is often asked, according to the partners, is how certified practices differ from past practices. At a minimum, certified operations must: have a management plan prepared prior to any harvest; not allow harvest levels to exceed growth; and accommodate the habitat needs of wildlife and rare or endangered species. In addition, they will give special care to riparian areas and wetlands, preserve old forests and unique ecosystems, and address other biodiversity issues.

Miller says that certification provides many benefits. Client landowners are assured they are maintaining or improving the long-term productive potential of their property. Associated stakeholders (family members, stockholders, investors) receive similar assurances. Certification allows Two Trees Forestry to differentiate itself in the marketplace and appeal more strongly to certain types of potential clients. Owners can take pride in knowing they are being good long-term stewards of their land.

While Two Trees Forestry now markets timber solely through

conventional markets, the market recognizes certified wood as unique. Two Trees Forestry believes that as consumer demand for responsibly produced wood products grows, so will the market advantage.

Concerns with Certification

The certification programs identified here each have their own unique concerns or drawbacks, but all must answer to a higher authority – the free market.

Claims of Questionable Science

Serious concerns have been raised about the scientific underpinnings of the principles used by the FSC. Some of the more troublesome, already approved by the council, include the following:

- No labeling of wood resulting from the harvest of primary/old growth forests that are then planted;
- No labeling of wood from forest lands that are converted to non-forest land uses;
- No labeling of wood from "well developed secondary forests" that are planted;
- Wood from plantations may only be labeled on the condition that the forest landowner recreate and manage for natural forest conditions on a portion (five to ten percent) of the property.

These principles can create a barrier to the labeling of U.S. wood and paper product, depending on an area's current forest condition, past management regimes, timber type and land development patterns, many of which are beyond the control of the wood producer.

The FSC prohibition against artificially regenerating stands exhibiting old growth characteristics and converting them to an even-aged management system can oppose sound silvicultural and economic considerations. Small landowners with old growth forests may have no alternative other than to manage using an even-aged regime. Such action would preclude them from certification.

FSC does endorse even-aged management, but only in those forest types adapted to stand-replacing natural disturbances (fire, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, etc.). In general though, FSC principles tend to be biased against

commercially viable shade intolerant species that rely on even-aged management prescriptions.

Many eastern U.S. forests are in poor condition due to past high-grading practices. One concern is that FSC principles could actually degrade overall forest quality if uneven-aged harvests are really high-grades in disguise.

Overall, FSC is attempting to push forestry away from intensive management that simplifies landscapes, and toward management that mimics natural stand development processes and conserves inherent species diversity. By adding cost and lowering returns on investment, however, FSC principles have the potential to reduce the incentive to invest in forest management, increasing the possibility that more forest land will be converted to other use.

The Price Tag of Forest Certification

Forest certification through FSC based programs can be expensive. Landowners have the option of either having their individual forests certified or hiring a resource manager who is certified to supervise their timber harvest. FSC certification of the land is available to forest landowners, but is likely to be cost-prohibitive for smaller landowners with under 10,000 acres.

According to a study conducted by AF&PA, the cost of certifying the entire forest owned by a small woodland owner is very high. In New England, certification of forest ownerships of around 100 acres would cost approximately \$4,800.00, with an additional annual retainer fee to monitor progress in implementing the forest management plan.

Marketing Certified Wood

Sawmills and the secondary wood processors who market to the consumer are critical players in the SmartWood program. SmartWood has developed a special certification status for these businesses known as "chain of custody" certification. Chain of custody manufacturers, in other words, are the only ones who can purchase certified wood and make it into SmartWood-certified products for the public.

Called "chain of custody" processors because they are responsible for tracking every piece of wood as it moves through the mill, more than 30 manufacturers are currently certified as non-exclusive

(Continued from page 15)

SmartWood companies (meaning they can sell non-certified products as well).

Each company manufactures or retails various certified wood products, some competing directly with non-certified substitutes and others catering to niche markets.

Most companies contacted said they had concerns with the SmartWood program, with many noting that they have had problems obtaining a sufficient supply of certified wood for their operations. One company blamed SmartWood for not developing a better supply prior to issuing certifications.

Another company dropped out of the program after six months, citing the high cost of certification coupled with little or no return on its investment.

When asked about paying a premium for certified wood, most companies said they did pay a premium for certified wood. But when asked if they were able to turn that around and collect a premium on their finished products, most said no, except for two companies in very specialized markets.

The companies which manufactured goods that competed directly against non-certified substitutes do not appear to be faring well with their certified products. On average, less than three percent of the total sales of these companies were certified wood products.

Sustainable Forestry Initiative
The AF&PA's Sustainable Forestry Initiative is not without its own problems. A major criticism of SFI is that it does not use independent third party verification to support its forest management claims. An independent panel of experts is used to review and judge the overall performance on an annual basis, but actual on-the-ground observation is extremely limited.

NIPF wood creates a special problem for SFI, because the program contains no provision to ensure that resources grown on NIPF lands meet sustainability standards. Since 60 percent of the wood used by forest industries comes from NIPF lands, SFI may have a credibility gap on this issue.

AF&PA is currently examining ways to expand the participation of the program to include NIPF landowners. The Association of Consulting Foresters and NIPF groups have recommended

that SFI companies pay a premium for NIPF wood that is "Grown Sustainably." Unfortunately, AF&PA claims this option is not feasible due to antitrust laws. Such laws prohibit the industry from working together to establish prices to be paid for stumpage.

Currently, SFI only addresses sustainability issues concerning wood from NIPF lands by providing landowners with information about Best Management Practices. Loggers are relied upon to provide this information to the landowner, a practice that may not always result in the best decisions regards sustainability.

The stated goal of SFI is to "meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to use the forests for products as well as for ecological and other uses." Yet nowhere in the SFI principles is there a statement that encourages landowners to use, or consider using, a professional forester when managing their resources. This is especially serious since approximately 80 percent of all timber harvests on U.S. NIPF lands are currently conducted without the advice or guidance of a professional forester. In essence, AF&PA is relying on loggers to manage most of America's NIPF land.

AF&PA reportedly has this issue under consideration.

Putting the Cart Before the Horse

No matter which program one examines, all must take into account one overriding factor – economics. In order for a certification program to work, it must compete against traditional forest management and its market share. In other words, unless there is an economic incentive to change to a certification program, certification will not work.

The certification programs described above seem to be "putting the cart before the horse." Studies have shown that most American consumers are not willing to pay a premium for "green" products.

This finding recently was illustrated when Home Depot, a large national chain of hardware stores, stopped carrying a line of certified lumber. According to a feature article in the *Journal of the Good Wood Alliance*, Home Depot stopped carrying a line of

certified shelving supplied by Collins Pine Company of Chester, California.

Collins Pine was one of the first U.S. companies certified by California-based Scientific Certification Systems (SCS). Environmentalists touted the 1994 Home Depot deal as a sign of bigger things to come. Collins Pine's Vice President of Marketing, Wade Mosby apparently feels the problem was Home Depot's explosive growth. In the article, Mosby noted, "Home Depot is a good company, but they're growing fast. It's either their way or the highway." Home Depot, however, has a different story, charging that Collins Pine's quality had fallen off – a charge Mosby squarely denied.

Whatever the case may be, the simple fact is that when Home Depot did carry certified wood, it did not charge the consumer a premium for the product. In fact, they mixed the "certified" wood with rest of the wood they sold, leaving consumers no way of distinguishing between the two!

To be successful, FSC, SmartWood and SCS are counting on buyers' groups to purchase certified wood. Buyers' groups in Europe have stated that they will only purchase wood from FSC-certified sources by the year 2000. It remains to be seen whether these groups maintain their assertions. FSC is hoping that consumers will not make economic considerations a major factor when choosing between certified and non-certified goods.

In the end, market forces will dictate the future of certification programs. Unless the free market provides premiums for certified wood, most landowners will find little incentive to obtain certification. Until it can be demonstrated to the NIPF landowner that consumers in general will pay a premium for certified wood, programs like SmartWood, SCS and SFI have an uphill struggle.

One manager of a SmartWood Chain of Custody certified business stated that only time will tell if any green certification will be a success. △

* Loren Larson is Executive Director of the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. (ACF), based in Alexandria, Virginia. This is an updated version of an article originally appeared in *The Consultant*, a publication of ACF.

Flying Logs on the Monongahela

By Glen Juergens, Timber Management Assistant, USFS Marlinton and White Sulphur Ranger Districts

This past fall, helicopter logging came to the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia. The Hummingbird Timber Sale located on the Marlinton Ranger District was the first helicopter logging job on the forest.

Why helicopter ("helo") logging? The sale area is located on some of the most highly productive soils found on the forest. These soils happen to also be some of the most erosive. In addition, numerous native brook trout streams are within the sale area and feed into the Elk River, a larger native brook trout stream, which forms the eastern boundary of the timber sale. Reproducing populations of rainbow trout are also found in these streams. To protect the streams (and trout) from a potential increase in sediment which might occur from conventional logging operations, helicopter logging was chosen as the preferred alternative after an environmental assessment prepared with the input of many natural resource specialists and the public.

The timber sale was sold to Georgia-Pacific in June 1997. G-P was the highest bidder out of a total of four bidders, with a total bid of \$1.1 million for 3,126,000 board feet of timber. Approximately 45% of the timber in the sale area was black cherry; basswood, red maple, sugar maple, yellow poplar, white ash, and northern red oak made up the remainder of the volume. Within the 2,500+ acre sale area boundary, there is 91 acres of regeneration cuts in five different areas, and 547 acres of thinnings in 13 different areas.

"Helo" logging is extremely costly and is only possible in this situation due to the high value of the timber being

removed. Safety precautions, always important, are absolutely critical with helicopters. The helicopter carries a crew of a pilot and co-pilot, and two crews are assigned to the helicopter to maximize flight hours. In addition, a crew chief, two assistant crew chiefs, a mechanic and others comprise the full crew - which is overseen by a project manager. Because of the skills required, Columbia conducts every stage of the logging operation from felling the trees to loading the trucks. Columbia has over 25 years of experience in "helo" logging.

Georgia-Pacific contracted with Columbia Helicopters, Inc. of Portland, Oregon to fly the logs. Columbia brought a Boeing Vertol 107-II from a logging job in Alaska to start flying the logs this past November, 1997. Prior to bringing in the helicopter, a felling crew came several weeks earlier to begin cutting the timber in preparation for the helicopter. The Boeing Vertol 107-11 is a twin engine helicopter capable of lifting 10,000 pounds. The logging went well except for some bad weather, courtesy of El Nino. During one good week of weather, nearly 300,000 board feet (Doyle scale) of timber was flown to the landings.

The damage to the residual stand of trees, in both the felling and flying operations, was minimal.



Reaction from people in the local communities and the timber industry was mostly positive. A viewing area for the public was set up near the Beckwith Lumber Company sawmill in Slaty Fork WV. Tours were given to the local media, students from local schools and colleges, and numerous individuals representing various timber companies throughout the area. As a result, several more logging jobs were contracted for the Columbia helicopter logging crew. The one crew which normally takes care of timber sales in the winter in the eastern U.S. has been joined by two more helicopter and logging crews in order to complete the work contracted for this year.

Several more timber sales specifying helicopter logging will take place over the next few years on the Monongahela. The Greenbrier Ranger District in Bartow, WV sold their first helicopter logging job to Wescor Forest Products in January, 1998, and the Cheat Ranger District in Parsons, WV plans to sell a helicopter logging timber sale in the very near future. △



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Forest Resource Trends of the Allegheny Region

By William H. McWilliams and Richard H. Widmann, Foresters, USDA Forest Service, Valley Forge Chapter

Forests provide numerous benefits to millions of people who live, work, and recreate in the 5-state Allegheny Region (Fig. 1). The Allegheny Region is widely known for its rich mix of forested habitats. The mixed-mesophytic forests of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia support as diverse an array of species as any in North America. The Allegheny Region also contains unique habitats, such as balsam-fir at



Figure 1. The Allegheny Region.

higher elevations in West Virginia and southern pine and hardwood types in the Coastal Plain area of Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey. Given the importance of these forests to society, it is useful to review the most recent information available on how they are changing.

The USDA Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis project (FIA) has been conducting forest inventories in the Allegheny Region since 1949. During that time, FIA has compiled a wealth of statistics that can be used to track trends in composition, structure, and forest character. The most recent inventories were conducted during the 1980's and tell us that forests of the Allegheny Region comprise 34.2 million acres, covering 61% of the land base. Concentrations of forest are especially high in the Appalachian Mountains and the Allegheny Plateau of northwestern Pennsylvania.

Nearly all of the Allegheny Region's forest land (95%) is classified as productive timberland capable of producing commercial products. The FIA data indicate that timberland in the region has remained relatively stable over time. The area of timberland increased by 11% between inventories conducted in the 1950's and 1960's, primarily due to the abandonment of farmland. Between inventories conducted in the 1960's and 1970's, the area of timberland decreased slightly (by 4%) due to conversion to urban, industrial, and other uses. Inventories from the 1980's show a slight increase (1%) in timberland area.

Oak-hickory is the most common forest-type group in the Allegheny Region, accounting for 59% of the timberland area. Northern hardwoods, located primarily along the northern tier

of Pennsylvania, are the second most abundant group, comprising 25% of the timberland. The remaining 16% is composed of miscellaneous forest types scattered across the region. The two most recent inventories indicate no major shifts among forest-type groups, but significant changes in stand structure. Perhaps the most important trend revealed by FIA inventories is the gradual maturing of the region's forest. This has resulted in an increase of 3.9 million acres (28%) in the area of sawtimber size stands (Fig. 2). As stands shift from poletimber to sawtimber size, their value for timber products increases dramatically. Concurrent with the increase in larger stand-size classes has been a decrease of 3.6 million acres (48%) in the area of young successional seedling-sapling stands.

Hardwoods dominate the overall inventory, accounting for 90% of total growing-stock volume. The 1980's was a decade of substantial increases in inventory volume. Overall, the cubic-foot volume of growing-stock trees increased by 26%. Increases in species such as red maple and yellow-poplar were especially high, 48 and 46%, respectively (Fig. 3). Increases in the volume of red and white oak were moderate (11% each) due to the impact of the gypsy moth across the region and substantially higher cutting rates in these versus other species. Increases in volume were substantial for species such as sugar maple, black cherry, hickory, and beech.

As would be expected from the increases in larger size stands, the volume of sawtimber (expressed in board feet, International 1/4-inch rule) increased faster than the volume of

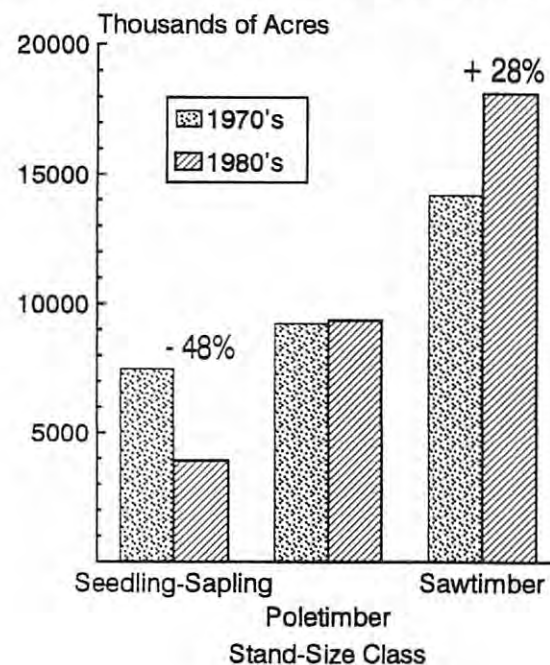


Figure 2. Area of timberland by stand-size class, Allegheny Region, 1970's and 1980's.

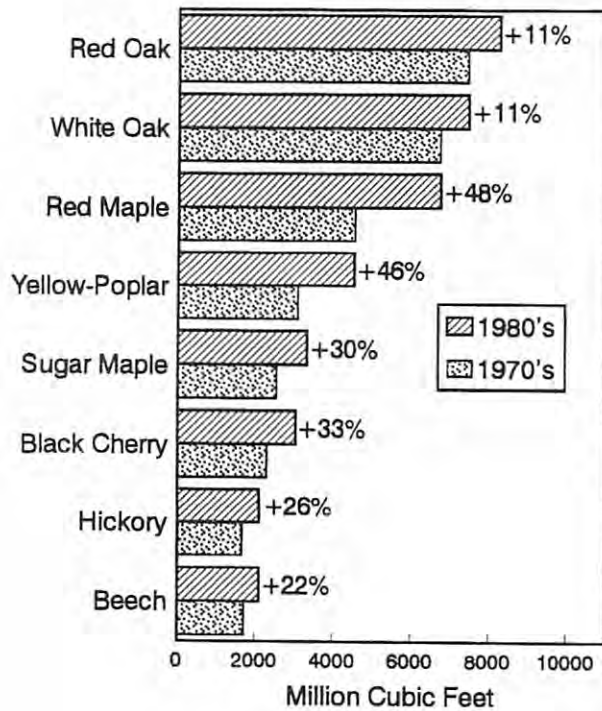


Figure 3. Growing-stock volume by species group, Allegheny Region, 1970's and 1980's.

growing stock. This occurred as large numbers of trees grew to the minimum limit used to compute board-foot volume (9 inches for softwoods and 11 inches for hardwoods). Sawtimber volume increased by 45%. Considerable increases were apparent for all the major species. Sixty percent of the sawtimber volume is in trees at least 15 inches in diameter and one-third of that volume is in grades one and two, the most preferred by lumber manufacturers.

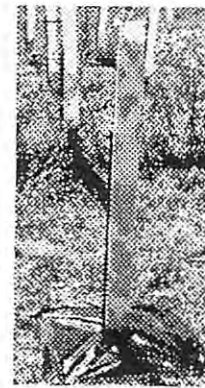
Components of inventory change include net growth, removals, and mortality. Net growth is defined as gross growth minus mortality. In comparing the impacts of mortality and removals on inventory change, the most recent inventories indicate that mortality had roughly half the impact that removals had. The inventories also showed favorable growth-to-removal relationships for both softwoods and hardwoods. Expressed in cubic feet of growing stock, softwoods were growing at a rate roughly 3 times that of removals. Hardwoods were growing at 2 1/2 times the rate of removals. This excess of net growth over removals underlies the positive net changes in inventory volume.

Overall, the most recent inventories indicate that the forests of the Allegheny Region are able to withstand increased demands for the goods and services they provide, yet there is concern over oak regeneration, forest health, timber availability, and the effects of expanded mill capacity. The question of how current cutting practices will affect species composition and the distribution of forested acres by successional stage also is important to the region's forestry community. Another nagging concern is the role of deer and their impact on regeneration quality and abundance. In the more urban areas of the region, loss of forest land and fragmentation of existing forests are

serious issues. A fresh look at these and other concerns is sorely needed as the most recent FIA inventory data are at least a decade old. New inventories of the Allegheny Region's forests are scheduled this year in New Jersey and Delaware. The inventories of Maryland and West Virginia will begin in 1999 and Pennsylvania's inventory is scheduled for 2000. The updated information from these inventories will help resolve forestry issues and fuel policy discussions in this region. △

Contact Allegheny News Editor
 Jack Winieski by e-mail:
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Impacts of Decreased Timber Supply From Federal Lands

By Bob Bierer, American Forest & Paper Association

I appreciate the opportunity to share some thoughts with you regarding the forest industry's perspective on the issue of decreased timber harvesting on federal lands and the consequential impacts.

I would like to start by summarizing the U.S. timber harvest over the past decade. The U.S. timber harvest levels have increased from 31% to 42% on industrial forest lands and from 48% to 50% on non-industrial private lands. This means that 92% of the timber harvest is now occurring on private lands. At the same time, harvest levels on the national forests has dropped from 14% to 4% and on other public land from 7% to 4%.

So What's Been Happening To The National Forest Timber Sale Program?

The timber sale volume has not only been dropping; the type and value of products being offered is also changing.

The volume of timber offered has dropped from 11.1 Billion Board Feet in 1989 to 3.7 Billion in 1997 -- a decline of 67 percent!

The percentage of green timber offered, as compared to salvage, has dropped from 80% in 1989 to approximately 50% today.

The product mix has also changed from primarily sawtimber to one of 50% sawtimber and 50% other -- pulpwood, biomass, etc.

In only 4 years, the Clinton-Gore Administration has taken a once profitable timber sale program, which produced a net profit of over \$500 million in 1992, to a red-ink program that lost \$15 million in 1996!

What are the Primary Reasons Behind The Diminished Timber Sale Program on National Forests?

Well, it certainly is not due to an inadequate supply of timber on the national forest lands, which can sustainably support a much larger program. For example, there are 48 million acres (25% of the NFS) designated in current Forest Plans as suitable for some form of timber harvest. These timbered lands have:

- ◇ almost 50% of the standing softwood volume in the U.S.;

- ◇ annual long-term sustained yield capacity of 17 billion board feet;
- ◇ aggregate allowable sale quantity (ASQ) of 8 billion board feet;
- ◇ recent annual ASQs of less than 4 billion board feet.

The principle reason for the drastic reduction in the federal timber sale program is the Administration's forest management policies that have supplanted multiple-use management, founded in legislation and enabling regulations, with a poorly-defined ecosystem management approach, which has no statutory or regulatory basis, where timber is an incidental output. Just how poorly defined is ecosystem management? Well, former Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson announced the adoption of ecosystem management in 1992, but the agency has not yet developed or issued any comprehensive policy or guidelines for implementing ecosystem management to their field offices.

Another reason is that the amount of national forest land actually available for timber harvest continues to decline because of the imposition of rigid standards and guides in ecoregion plans such as the Northwest Forest Plan, and the application of interim "policies, screens, and rules" such as the so-called Eastside screens in Eastern Oregon and Washington.

Yet another reason is the Administration's circumvention of the land management planning process with top-down, one-size-fits-all edicts such as the just announced Forest Service roadless area moratorium. This moratorium, which could be termed RARE III, will reduce the timber sale program even further -- 275 Million Board Feet as estimated by the Forest Service, or about 1 Billion Board Feet depending on the interpretation of their "special areas" category.

By law, the roadless area decisions are dealt with in the forest planning process and through state wilderness legislation. Many states have already reached agreements -- which established wilderness areas and released others for other types of management -- by

following these processes. The Administration wants to completely override these decisions by issuing a politically-motivated decree from Washington, DC. The hard reached local compromise agreements would effectively be thrown "out-the-window".

The roadless area moratorium will also impact cleanup efforts on the Green Mountain and White Mountain National Forests in Vermont and New Hampshire, which sustained heavy damage from this winter's ice storms.

Some Impacts From The Reduced Federal Timber Sale Program

Failure to Adequately Address Forest Health Problems. The national forests are suffering from major forest health problems. U. S. Forest Service Chief Mike Dombeck recently testified that approximately 40 million acres of national forest lands are in poor health and in imminent danger of catastrophic wildfires. Many of these forests are suffering from overstocked conditions, and many mature stands are being decimated by insects and disease epidemics. Only 20-25% of the annual growth on the national forest lands is being harvested, and the net growth is exacerbating the backlog of overstocked stand conditions. At the present rate of treatment, it will take at least 40 years just to cover the current health problem.

Increased Wildfires & Environmental Impacts. Over the past decade, an average of 3 million acres of federal timberland have been consumed annually by wildfires, while only ½ million acres have been harvested in some capacity. The environmental impacts on areas destroyed by wildfire are much more severe than on those being logged. Current forest management policies do not support an active forest management program to aggressively salvage mortality, thin overstocked stands, and conduct other treatments that reduce fuel loads to mitigate the wildfire impacts. And, the annual costs alone for wildfire suppression, not including damage losses and rehabilitation costs, is over \$1 billion.

(Continued on page 22)

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(Continued from page 20)

Increased Timber Imports. As the volume of timber sold on national forests has declined from 11 billion board feet down to 4 billion board feet, the import of softwood lumber, primarily from Canada, has increased by approximately the same amount and is now at a record high - 37% of U.S. consumption.

Increased Harvesting on Industrial & Non-industrial Private Lands. Private forest lands in the U.S. are currently providing 92% of the timber harvest. In some regions of the country, this harvest rate may be unsustainable.

Increased Use of Wood Substitutes. The production and use of substitutes (plastics, concrete, steel, aluminum, etc.) has also increased to record highs. These substitutes are nonrenewable and consume, on average, seven times the energy to produce than their wood counterparts, thus increasing the volume of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere.

Economic Devastation of Rural Communities. In the Pacific Northwest alone, nearly 400 mills have closed in the 1990's, primarily due to an inability to purchase timber. This has devastated

many small, rural communities which depended on the mills for jobs, tax base, and support of local infrastructures.

Decreased Payments to States & Counties. The 25% payments to states and counties have declined sharply as the timber sale program dropped, further financially crippling many local governments and school systems in counties where national forests comprise a significant portion of the land ownership. These communities and school districts have had to increase taxes significantly on their limited private land base just to maintain essential services.

Final Thoughts on the National Forest Timber Sale Program.

First - selling timber is an established part of the Forest Service's Congressionally mandated mission, and timber sales are the "least-cost" tool for achieving management objectives that require manipulating the existing vegetation since the alternatives generate no revenues.

Second - the national forests could sustainably produce 8-12 billion board feet of timber annually - two to three times the current sale level. **The national forest lands are, quite**

clearly, seriously under-performing.

Third - the Administration's forest management policies, which allow millions of acres of federal timberland to be destroyed by wildfire each year instead of using active forest management to reduce the fire hazard, are a failure that needs to be reversed.

Fourth - Congress needs to reemphasize a policy of active forest management that restores healthy forest conditions, makes positive economic contributions, decreases lumber imports, and reduces expenditures for fighting wildfires.

AF&PA is working with Congressman Bob Smith to get moderate forest health legislation passed this year. We are also working with Senator Craig to pass land law reform legislation. We are also supporting the Kempthorn bill to reauthorize and reform the ESA. Lastly, we are supporting passage of the Quincy Library Group bill, which is a local community collaboration plan for management of three national forests in California.

Presented February 12, 1998 at the Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting, Atlantic City, NJ.

Private Forest-land Owners: Who are we working for?

By Thomas W. Birch, USFS Resource Analyst, Valley Forge SAF Chapter

Introduction

From 1989 to 1994 over 2,600 private forest-land owners in the five Allegheny states (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia) completed questionnaires as part of a national study of forest ownership. Nationally there are nearly 10 million private ownerships

with 400 million acres of private forest land (Birch 1996). The Allegheny states have one million private forest land ownerships with 27 million forested acres. This is an increase from an estimated 900,000 ownerships in 1978 when the previous national study was conducted (Birch and others 1982). The surveys told us that 69% of the private forest is owned by individuals rather than corporations, partnerships, or clubs. Corporations hold 20%, and the remaining 11% is held by partnerships, clubs, associations and trusts.

Ownership Size

The distribution of owners and acres by size of ownership in the Allegheny states has changed since

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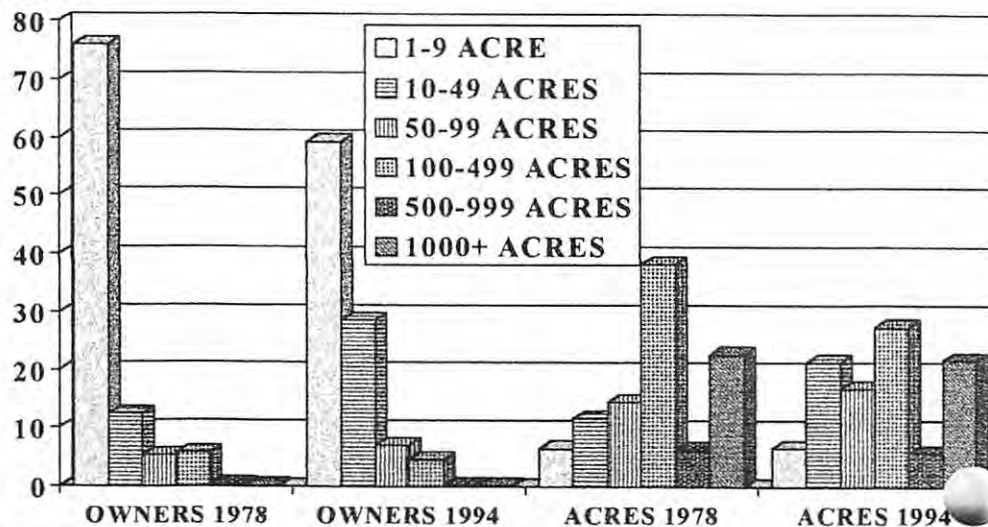


Fig. 1: Distribution of private ownerships, by size class, Allegheny States, 1978 and 1994

1978 (Fig. 1). The number of owners with fewer than 10 acres of forest decreased while the acreage in this class increased from 1.5 to 1.8 million acres. The number of owners with 10-49 acres of forest land increased from 111,700 to 188,500 and the acreage more than doubled from 2.8 to 5.9 million acres. The number of owners with 50 to 99 acres increased as did their acreage. Ownerships with more than 100 acres of forest decreased from 16.1 to 15.0 million acres. The ownership of larger than 100 acres of forest are where most of the commercial timber harvest takes place.

Timber harvesting experience influences future forest management. Nearly half (46%) of the private owners have some experience with having trees cut from a portion of their forest.

They control 67% of the private forest. In these states, 33% of the owners expect to harvest some trees in the next 10 years, they control 48% of the private forest. An additional 25% are indefinite and they have 30% of the private forest. The 33% who never intend to harvest control only 15% of the private forest.

The yearly transition to many new forest owners makes communication of information on such programs as Stewardship difficult. An estimated 21% of the private owners first acquired forest land since 1980 and they own 16% of the private forest land. At the other extreme, 15% of the owners have owned forest land since before 1950, these long term owners have more than 25% of the private forest in the Allegheny states.

Social and economic characteristics of the owners and their objectives must be considered when developing management programs. For example, retired owners have increased and they are over 30% of the individual owners. Many of these individuals retired in the last decade and were from occupation groups, such as blue collar workers and farmers. Retired owners now own over 33% of the forest owned by individuals. There were significant declines in the acres owned by farmers and blue collar individuals.

Currently 28% of all private ownerships are owned by individuals over 65 years of age. These owners control 25% of all private forest in the East. Many of these owners and their families will face serious tax problems in the future which have management and tenure implications. Many estates may be forced to harvest timber or sell the land to pay taxes in the next two decades.

Owner Objectives

About 35% of the owners have part of farm or residence as primary reason for owning forest land (Fig. 2). Another

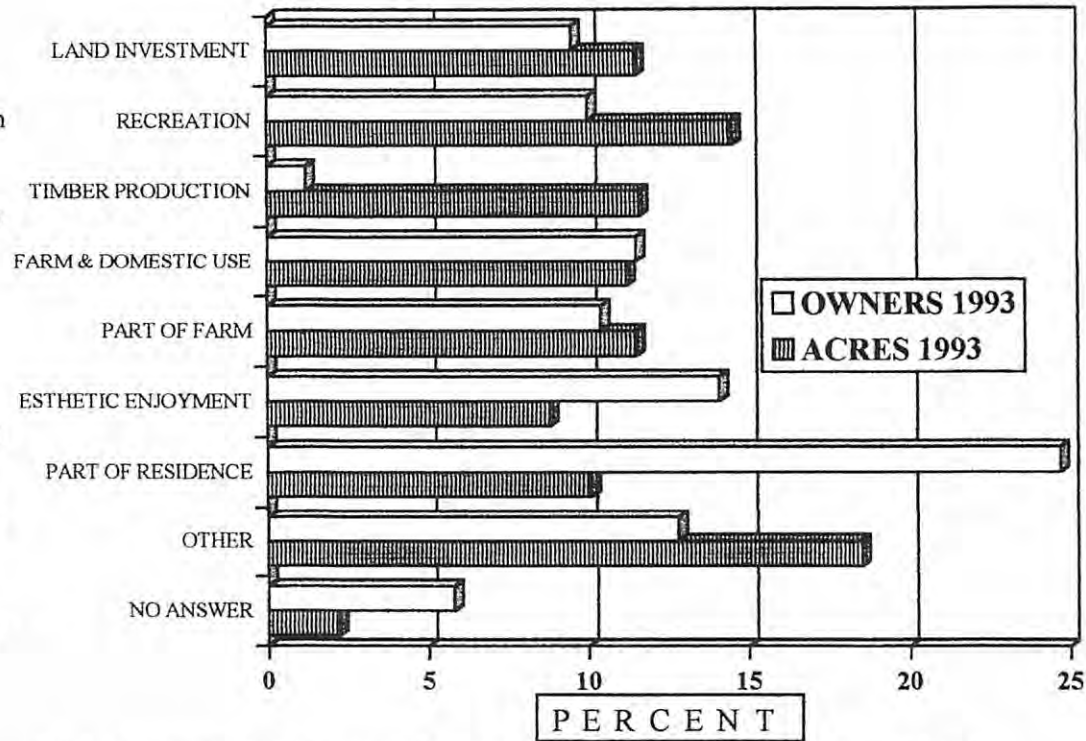


Fig. 2. Distribution of private ownerships, by primary reason for owning Allegheny forest land, 1994

12% have farm or domestic use as their primary reason for owning. Recreation and esthetic enjoyment is why 24% of the private owners hold forest land. Only 10% of the owners have investment as their primary objective. Only one percent own their forest for timber production, they have 12% of the private forest in the Allegheny states.

Management Planning

As a measure of management activity, three percent of the private ownerships have a written management plan. They cover 20% of the private forest. Of the area covered by plans, forest industry owns 28% and the other 72% is in non-industrial private forest (NIPF). There is a strong relationship between size of ownership and having a plan. While most owners who have a plan own fewer than 50 acres of forest, nearly 50% of the acreage covered by plans is in ownerships with more than 5,000 acres. Within each acreage size class, ownerships with more than 1,000 acres are sold on planning. More than 50% of the owners have a written management plan. Most plans for small ownerships were prepared by state employees such as service foresters or wildlife biologists. Plans prepared by consultants cover larger holdings. The largest are prepared by companies that have their own forestry staffs.

Many questions are beginning to be answered about urban influences on forests. How far do urban areas influence how private owners think about their forest land? What level of population density impacts timber harvesting of private forests? Are growth and removal rates different by parcel size and location? With 75% of the nation's population living in urban areas, where do the forest-land owners live? Table 1. shows some of the population statistics that may influence forests in the Allegheny states.

Coming Events

- May**
- 6-16 Study Tour to Norway & Sweden. Contact Dick Reid at (941) 488-2467 or e-mail: rreid66519aol.com
- 16 "Log a Load for Kids" Charity Shoot, benefits PA children's hospitals, Warriors Mark Shooting Preserve. Sporting Clay Targets & 3-D Archery Targets. PA Forestry Assoc., Industry Cmte., Pat Shierren (814) 632-6680.
- 16-19 National Leadership Academy. Diana Perl (301) 897-8720 ext. 111, Fax (301) 897-3690, <perld@safnet.org>
- 31 Petition deadline for nominations for election to SAF Fellow. Instruction packet available from Barbara Weitzer, (301) 897-8720, Fax (301) 897-3690, E-mail <weitzerb@safnet.org>
- June**
- 15 Deadline for articles and photos for Summer 1998 issue of *The Allegheny News*.
- July**
- SAF Council and Vice-Presidential petitions are due prior to July 1, 1998.
- August**
- 17-18 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting, Holiday Inn, King of Prussia, PA "Forestry on the Edge: The Urban/Rural Interface." Topics include Water, Weeds, Wildlife, Land Use" sponsored by Valley Forge Chapter. Bruce Arnold (610) 964-9757, Fax (610) 687-7739.
- September**
- 15 Deadline for articles and photos for Fall 1998 issue of *The Allegheny News*.
- 19-23 National SAF Convention, Traverse City, Michigan
- October**
- 1-3 International Elm Conference, The Morton Arboretum: Elm Breeding, Dutch Elm Research, Elm Yellows, Insect Pests, Conservation of Elm Genetic Resources. Registration +1 (630) 719-2468 (F- 2440), Conference Topics/Speakers +1 (630) 719-2423 <cdunn@mortonarb.org>. Web site <http://www.mortonarb.org>

Future National SAF Conventions

- September 11-15, 1999 Portland, Oregon
 November 16-21, 2000 Washington, DC

(Continued from page 23)

Table 1. Population Statistics for Allegheny States, 1990 (U.S. Department of Census)

State	Total Population	Households	Population density/sq. mi.	Percent Urban Population
NJ	7,730,188	2,794,316	1,042	89
MD	4,781,468	1,749,342	489	81
DE	666,168	247,163	340	79
PA	11,881,643	4,492,958	265	69
WV	1,793,477	688,727	74	36
TOTAL	26,852,944	9,972,506	305	75
NATION	248,709,873	91,966,582	70	75

In Pennsylvania for example, 74% of the area in census blocks with fewer than 50 people per square mile is in forest. At the other end of the spectrum, 16% of the area in census blocks with more than 1,000 persons per square mile is in forest. Only in areas with fewer than 100 people per square mile does forest occupy more than half of the land area. The most recent forest inventory of Pennsylvania measures 3,143 forested plots and 66 of the forested plots fell in population densities of greater than 500 people per square mile. Nearly 25% of the forest owners in Pennsylvania list zip codes that have over 75% urban populations, while 40% of the forest owners live in zip codes with no urban population. There are an estimated 81,500 forest-land owners that live in New Jersey and they own 2,134,000 acres of forest land. This is different from the 88,700 owners that own the 1.4 million acres of private forest in New Jersey. Few owners in New Jersey list zip codes with fewer than 100 people per sq. mi.

In Conclusion

Over the next 20 years the number of owners in Allegheny states will increase. Ownerships with fewer than 100 acres of forest will increase fastest and the acreage will come from ownerships with 100-1,000 acres. By 2020, nearly 50% of the owners will be people who acquire forest after today and they will have over 25% of the forest. Public influence on forestry will increase and take many forms: regulation of forest practice whether in the form of Best Management Practices (BMP) or formal regulations. Participation in voluntary programs such as the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Stewardship will increase to where 60% of the private forest in the Allegheny states will have a written plan. ⚡

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The list of Committee Chairs will return in the Summer 1998 Issue of The Allegheny News. If you need information before then, call Editor Jack Winieski at (717) 432-3646

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

Officers

Chairman
Mark R. Webb
11021 US Route 6
Union City, PA 16438
(o) 814-663-5393
(f) 814-663-5393

Chairman-Elect
Michael B. Lester
RR 1, Box 268
Springville, PA 18844
(o) 717-833-3194
(h) 717-965-2752
(f) 717-833-6180
mclester7@aol.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Susan E. Lacy
1713 Kings Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320
(o) 610-975-4134
(h) 610-383-7144
(f) 610-975-4200

Past Chairman
Timothy A. Kaden
724 Green Winged Trail
Camden, DE 19934
(o) 302-739-3423
(h) 302-697-7066
(f) 302-739-3817
tkaden@state.de.us

Executive Committee

Kurt W. Gottschalk
USFS Science Lab
180 Canfield Street
Morgantown, WV 26505
(o) 304-285-1598
(h) 412-627-4161
(f) 304-285-1505

Kenneth W. Jolly
1398 Primrose Road
Annapolis, MD 21403
(o) 301-464-3065
(h) 410-626-2845
(f) 301-464-0462

Kenneth C. Kane
103 Tionesta Avenue
Kane, PA 16735-1236
(o) 814-837-9391
(h) 814-837-8357

Susan Stout
19 Park Street
North Warren, PA 16365
(o) 814-563-1040
(h) 814-726-2023
(f) 814-563-1048

Executive Director

Jack Winieski
PO Box 699
Dillsburg, PA 17019-0699
(o) 717-432-3646; (h) 717-432-3646
(f) 717-432-3646
ansaf@paonline.com

Council Representative

John Heissenbuttel
American Forest & Paper Association
1111 19th Street NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(o) 1-800-878-8878; (h) 703-329-7889
(f) 202-463-2708
john_heissenbuttel@afandpa.org

Division Chairs

Maryland/Delaware
Jack L. Perdue
5112 Main Street
Grasonville, MD 21630
(o) 410-974-3776
(h) 410-827-9710

New Jersey
William F. Brash, Jr.
5 Wildwood Way
Freehold, NJ 07728
(o) 609-586-9603
(h) 908-462-0675

Pennsylvania
Robert J. LaBar
1459 Hemlock Farms
(o) 717-775-9741
(h) 717-775-9741

West Virginia
Barbara Breshock
General Delivery
MacArthur, WV 25873
(o) 304-256-6775
(h) 304-934-6777
(f) 304-256-6948

Chapter Chairs

Keystone
Charles R. Brown
RD 6, Box 6179
Orchard Road
Spring Grove, PA 17362
(o) 717-225-4711
(h) 717-225-1461

Northern Hardwood
Ned Karger
305 Kinzua Avenue
Kane, PA 16735
(o) 814-837-6941
(h) 814-837-6819

Pinchot
Paul Kowalczyk
RD 2, Box 44
Hawley, PA 18428
(o) 717-226-9488
(h) 717-226-9488

Plateau
Christopher Nowak
Forestry Sciences Laboratory
PO Box 928
Warren, PA 16365
(o) 814-563-1040
(h) 814-726-1574

Rothrock
Gary N. Rutherford
5545 State Route 103 South
McVeytown, PA 17051
(o) 814-643-2340
(h) 717-899-7281
(f) 814-643-6304

Valley Forge
Terry Hoffman
14 Killdeer Lane
Downingtown, PA 19335
(o) 610-975-4143
(h) 610-458-0480
(f) 610-975-4177

Western Gateway
Gary Sheridan
RD 1, Box 138-B
Acme, PA 15610
(o) 412-834-6500, ext. 152
(h) 412-593-6974
(f) 412-834-3794